

HOUSE BILL 1697  
By Fowlkes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 38; Title 39;  
Title 50 and Title 56, relative to workers' compensation  
fraud.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 50, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by  
adding the following as a new section:

50-6-135.

If any employee knowingly, willfully, and intentionally causes a medical or wage  
loss claim to be paid by falsely claiming that the injury arose out of a compensable work-  
related injury when such claim should not have been submitted under workers'  
compensation insurance coverage, then a civil penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000)  
may be assessed against such employee. The commissioner of labor and workforce  
development has the authority to assess and collect such civil penalty. All such  
penalties collected shall be earmarked to implement the public awareness program  
concerning workers' compensation fraud authorized in § 50-6-127(a).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.